

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OMB-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-01 SAM-01 /075 W

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R 190945Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2975

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0872

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, XF

SUBJECT: SIAD TELEGRAM ACCEPTING ARAB SUMMIT POSTPONEMENT

REF: CAIRO 5577

1. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO SOMALIA ABDEL AZIZ GAMIL HAS SUPPLIED ME WITH COPY OF PRESIDENT SIAD'S TELEGRAM TO ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN RIAD ACCEPTING POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN MOGADISCIO. TELEGRAM WAS SENT JUNE 6 AND SIAD REQUESTED THAT IT BE CIRCULATED TO ALL ARAB HEADS OF STATE.

2. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR, AS WELL AS OTHER ARAB ENVOYS IN MOGADISCIO, BELIEVE SIAD MADE MAJOR DIPLOMATIC BLUNDER IN
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LANGUAGE OF CABLE, WHICH ARABS DESCRIBE AS RUDE AND OFFENSIVE,

AND ADDITIONAL TACTICAL ERROR IN ROUTING IT PERSONALLY TO RIAD AND NOT RPT NOT TO ARAB LEAGUE FONMINS THROUGH THE SOMALI FONSEC OMAR ARTEH. GAMIL BELIEVES THAT SIAD'S CHANCES FOR ATTRACTING ARAB LEAGUE SUPPORT FOR MOGADISCIO SUMMIT HAVE PROBABLY GROWN EVEN DIMMER AS RESULT.

3. FOLLOWING IS EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF SIAD CABLE:

QTE I WOULD LIKE TO REFER TO THE DECISION WHICH WAS TAKEN IN RABAT LAST YEAR REGARDING THE MEETING OF THE ARAB HEADS OF STATE IN MOGADISCIO IN JUNE, 1975.

QTE OUR PURPOSE FOR THIS MEETING IN MOGADISCIO WAS TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF COMMON ARAB INTEREST, ESPECIALLY IN THIS VERY CRITICAL TIME, AND GIVE TO ARAB HEADS OF STATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME BETTER ACQUAINTED WITH THEIR BROTHERS IN SOMALIA.

QTE UNFORTUNATELY, DURING THE ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING WHICH TOOK PLACE IN CAIRO IN APRIL, 1975, SOME OF THE ARAB REPRESENTATIVES TRIED ILLEGALLY TO CHANGE THE VENUE FROM MOGADISCIO, THE SITE WHICH HAD BEEN CHOSEN IN RABAT BY THE HIGHEST COUNCIL OF THE ARAB LEAGUE.

QTE IN VIEW OF WHAT OCCURED AT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN CAIRO, I PAID A VISIT TO SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES AND WAS PROMISED THAT THE NEXT ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT WOULD TAKE PLACE IN MOGADISCIO IN JUNE, 1975, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RABAT DECISION.

QTE I AM ASTOUNDED BY THE POSITION OF SOME ARAB COUNTRIES IN PROPOSING TO POSTPONE THE SCHEDULED TIME OF THE MEETING. THE SOMALI PEOPLE CAN FIND NO RPT NO EXPLANATION FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT.

QTE THE ONLY LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR THIS CHANGE IS THE SCHEMING AND MANEUVERING BETWEEN SOME COUNTRIES FOR POSTPONEMENT.

QTE NEVERTHELESS WE IN SOMALIA WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ARAB UNITY. IN CONCLUSION, SOMALIA ACCEPTS THE POSTPONEMENT OF
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THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE BECUASE OF THE EXPRESSION OF THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ARAB LEAGUE.

QTE PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL HEADS OF STATE. UNQTE.
HAMRICK

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